



**Université d'Ottawa**  
Faculté des sciences sociales  
Sociologie et anthropologie

**University of Ottawa**  
Faculty of Social Sciences  
Sociology and Anthropology

550 Cumberland, TBT 405, Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5  
Tél. | Tel.: 613-562-5720 Téléc. | Fax: 613-562-5906

## COURSE OUTLINE

### ANT 3326A

### Indigenous Peoples and Human Rights: International Perspectives Fall 2008

Professor: Scott Simon  
Office: Desmarais 8124  
Phone: 613-562-5800, ext. 1363  
Email: [ssimon@uottawa.ca](mailto:ssimon@uottawa.ca)  
Office Hours: Wed., 16:00-18:00  
Class Time: Monday 16:00-17:30 and Wednesday 14:30-16:00  
Classroom: Simard 430

**Course Description and Objectives:** Indigenous peoples have emerged in recent years as important players in the international human rights arena. This course introduces students to many of the issues in indigenous issues and human rights, including analysis of the contemporary realities of indigenous peoples around the world; discussions about the mobilization of the category "indigenous" on the international scene; socio-historical contexts of emergence of indigenous claims; indigenous politics and human rights; state positioning vis-à-vis the indigenous movement and claims in terms of collective rights; as well as economic, political, and socio-cultural development of indigenous peoples. Attention will be paid to case studies of specific indigenous peoples. By the end of this course, it is expected that students will be able to understand issues of indigenous peoples and human rights, including the social contexts of indigenous claims, and to engage in discussion of indigenous issues in specific socio-historical contexts.

**Course Format:** This course will consist of two weekly sessions to discuss the readings and films. The first session each week will be based on John Bodley's *Victims of Progress*, the main textbook in this field. The second session will discuss issues from that theoretical area from readings and films, including case studies. Students will be exposed to a wide variety of theoretical texts and ethnographic material. Films are also an important component of this class, as they provide visual ethnographic information and the voices of indigenous peoples themselves. Students are responsible for keeping up with the readings throughout the semester and being prepared to discuss them in a scholarly way. **It is expected that students will have read the weekly readings BEFORE the class discussions.**

## **Student Responsibilities and Evaluation:**

*Mid-term exam:* A written mid-term exam will be given on October 15. This exam will include short answer questions and at least one essay question.

*Case Study:* **Due November 5.** Students must write a case study of a particular indigenous people or nation. Instructions on this assignment will be given later in the course.

*Final take-home exam:* A final take-home exam will be given. This exam will test the ability of students to synthesize the material learned in class and apply it to current indigenous issues.

## **Grades will be calculated as follows:**

|                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| Mid-term exam        | 30% |
| Case study           | 30% |
| Final take-home exam | 40% |

**Policy on E-mail:** Please note that emails will only be answered during weekly office hours. No individual tutoring will be given by e-mail. Since most e-mails have questions that concern all students in the class, please try to raise the questions in class. At the discretion of the instructor, most questions received by e-mail will be answered orally in class for the benefit of all students.

**NOTE ON WRITING:** In your assignment and take-home, you will be **required** to format all references and bibliographies in the **Author-Date Citation Style**. You will be penalized for incorrect use of citations and bibliographical reference. For further information on style and other writing issues, please see the Faculty of Social Sciences "Writing and Style Guide for University Papers and Assignments." It can be found at: <http://aix1.uottawa.ca/~fgingras/metho/guide-en.html>

## **Required Textbook:**

Bodley, John H. 2008. *Victims of Progress*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

The textbook is available at Agora Books, 135 Besserer Street, 562-4672. Additional readings will be mostly available on-line through the library catalog. Please download them yourselves and read them before the class session. The two additional articles will be available on reserve in the library. Please be sure to make your own copies well in advance.

## Course Schedule

**September 8**      **Introduction/Orientation**

**September 10**      **Anthropology and Human Rights**

*Readings:* Goodale, Mark. 2006. "Toward a Critical Anthropology of Human Rights." *Current Anthropology* 47 (3): 485-511. **Available On-line.**

Kuper, Adam. 2003. "The Return of the Native." *Current Anthropology* 44 (3): 389-402. **Available On-line**

**September 15**      **Indigenous Peoples and Culture Scale: Hunters**

*Readings:* Bodley, John H. 2008. *Victims of Progress*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, pp. 1-13.

Campbell, John R. 2004. "Ethnic Minorities and Development: a Prospective Look at the Situation of Pastoralists and Hunter-Gatherers." *Ethnicities* 4 (1): 5-26. **Available On-line.**

**September 17**      **Hunter-gatherers: an ancient way of life**

FILM: *A Human Way of Life*

**September 22**      **Progress and Indigenous Peoples**

*Readings:* Bodley, pp. 15-36.

Turnbull, Colin M. 1973. "Human Nature and Primal Man." *Social Research* 40 (3): 511-530. **Available On-line.**

**September 24**      **Hunters and Social Movements**

FILM: *The Sage Hunter*

**September 29**      **The Uncontrolled Frontier: Colonialism and Indigenous Peoples**

*Readings:* Bodley, 37-55.

Penny, H. Glenn. 2003. "The Politics of Anthropology in the Age of Empire: German Colonists, Brazilian Indians, and the Case of Alberto Vojtěch Frič." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 45 (2): 249-280. **Available On-line.**

*Recommended:* Langfur, Hal. 1999. "Myths of Pacification: Brazilian Frontier Settlement and the Subjugation of the Bororo Indians." *Journal of Social History* 32 (4): 879-905. . **Available On-line.**

**October 1            We Fought with Spears: Indigenous Resistance**

*Readings:* Bodley, pp. 57-74.

Ching, Leo. 2000. "Savage Construction and Civility Making: The Musha Incident and Aboriginal Representations in Colonial Taiwan." *positions* 8 (3): 795-818. .  
**Available On-line.**

**October 6 and 8    A History of Mohawk Resistance**

FILM: *Kanehsatake: 270 Years of Resistance*

**October 13            No class: Thanksgiving**

**October 15            Mid-term Exam**

**October 20            The Extension of Government Control**

*Readings:* Bodley, pp. 75-94.

Watson, Irene. 2002. "Buried Alive." *Law and Critique* 13 (3): 253-269. **Available On-line.**

*Recommended:* Buchan, Bruce and Mary Heath. 2006. "Savagery and Civilization: From Terra Nullius to the 'Tide of History.'" *Ethnicities* 6 (1): 5-26. **Available On-line.**

**October 22            Land Policies**

*Readings:* Bodley, pp. 95-116.

Thuen, Trond. 2004. "Anthropological Knowledge in the Courtroom: Conflicting Paradigms." *Social Anthropology* 12 (3): 265-287. **Available On-line.**

**October 27            Cultural Modification Policies**

*Readings:* Bodley, pp. 117-140.

Siddle, Richard. 2002. "An Epoch-making Event? The 1997 Ainu Cultural Promotion Act and its Impact." *Japan Forum* 14 (3): 405-423. **Available On-line.**

*Recommended:* Cornell, John B. 1964. Ainu Assimilation and Cultural Extinction: Acculturation Policy in Hokkaido. *Ethnology* 3 (3): 287-304. **Available On-line.**

**October 29            Land Loss and Cultural Change Here on Algonquin Territory**

FILM: *The Invisible Nation*

**November 3            Economic Globalization**

*Readings:* Bodley, pp. 141-166.

Blaser, Mario, Harvey Feit, and Glenn McRae. 2004. "Indigenous Peoples and Development Processes: New Terrains of Struggle." Pp. 1-25 in M. Blaser, H. Feit and G. McRae (eds.), *In the Way of Development: Indigenous Peoples, Life Projects and Globalization*. Ottawa: IDRC. **Available On-line:** <https://hdl-bnc.idrc.ca/dspace/handle/123456789/33483>

*Recommended:* Another chapter of this book of your choice.

**November 5            Indigenous Workers**

FILM: *Spudwrench – Kahnawake Man*

**Case Study due**

**November 10          The Price of Progress**

*Readings:* Bodley, pp. 167-184.

Rethmann, Petra. 2000. "A Hopeless Life? The Story of a Koriak Woman in the Russian Far East." *Anthropologica* 42 (1): 29-42. **Available On-line.**

**November 12          India: Dalits and Discrimination**

FILM: *Untouchable?*

*Readings:* Kapoor, Dip. 2007. "Gendered-Caste Violations and the Cultural Politics of Voice in Rural Orissa, India." *Gender, Place and Culture* 14 (5): 609-616. **Available On-line.**

**November 17          The Political Struggle for Indigenous Self-Determination**

*Readings:* Bodley, pp. 185-230.

Simon, Scott. 2007. "Paths to Autonomy: Aboriginality and the Nation in Taiwan." Pp. 221-240 in Carsten Storm and Mark Harrison (eds.), *The Margins of Becoming*.

*Identity and Culture in Taiwan*. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz. (will be placed on reserve in the library).

**November 19 Tribal Government**

FILM: *The Tightrope of Power*

**November 24 Petroleum, the Commercial World, and Indigenous Peoples**

*Readings*: Bodley, pp. 231-250.

Hanson, Randel D. 2001. "Half Lives of Reagan's Indian Policy: Marketing Nuclear Waste to American Indians." *American Indian Culture and Research Journal* 25 (1): 21-44. **Available On-line.**

**November 26 Asia Cement: a Taiwanese Case Study**

FILM: *Land in her Heart: Chun-chou Tien on the Defensive*

*Recommended*: Simon, Scott. 2005. "Scarred Landscapes and Tattooed Faces: Poverty, Identity and Land Conflict in a Taiwanese Indigenous Community." Pp. 53-68 in Robyn Eversole, John-Andrew McNeish and Alberto Cimadamore (eds.), *Indigenous Peoples and Poverty: an International Perspective*. London: Zed Books 2005. (will be placed on reserve in the library)

**December 1 Human Rights and the Politics of Ethnocide**

*Readings*: Bodley, pp. 251-290

**December 3 2007 UN Declaration and Wrap-up Discussion**

*Readings*: Bodley, pp. 291-298

UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Available on-line at:

<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/declaration.html>

## ABSENCE

An absence from any examination or test, or late submission of assignments due to illness, must be justified; otherwise, a penalty will be imposed. Reasons such as travel, employment and misreading the examination schedule are not usually accepted.

## PLAGIARISM

The document [Beware of Plagiarism](http://www.uottawa.ca/plagiarism.pdf) clearly illustrates good practices for citing works and clarifies what's deemed acceptable and unacceptable in university papers (<http://www.uottawa.ca/plagiarism.pdf>).

## FREE SERVICES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS

The **Mentoring Centre** of the Faculty of Social Sciences is located in the Desmarais Building, room 2185. Student-mentors share with students their university experience – community life, rules and regulations, learning strategies ([http://www.socialsciences.uottawa.ca/eng/mentoring\\_centre.asp](http://www.socialsciences.uottawa.ca/eng/mentoring_centre.asp)).

The **SASS (Student Academic Success Service)**, established by the University, provides many services (<http://web.sass.uottawa.ca/>). One of them is the **Academic Writing Help Center (AWHC)** located at 110 University Street (<http://www.sass.uottawa.ca/writing/>). The SASS regularly publishes a list of academic and social activities taking place on campus on its **University 101 Web portal** (<http://web.sass.uottawa.ca/university101>).

The **Access Service** – formerly called Special Services – helps students with a physical handicap or learning disability. It is part of SASS (<http://www.sass.uottawa.ca/access/>).